



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FIRST OF TWENTY-NINE ARYAN CIRCLE MEMBERS SENTENCED

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today that four Aryan Circle members have been sentenced to federal prison for their roles in being part of a Continuing Criminal Enterprise to produce more than 15,000 grams of methamphetamine.

"These gang members peddled poison in the Permian Basin. Methamphetamine is an extremely dangerous and highly addictive illegal drug that has ruined the lives of many many people. The severe sentences handed down today should send a tough message to drug dealers that we will not tolerate their crimes in our community," stated **United States Attorney Johnny Sutton**.

Appearing before United States District Judge Robert Junell in Midland, those sentenced today include: Charles Samson, a.k.a. Killer and Michael Curtis Lewis who both received a life sentences, Leonard Duane Griffith, a.k.a. Radar who received thirty years and Michael Norris Martin, a.k.a. Mikey who received 210 months in federal prison.

Since January 2000, the Permian Basin AC has manufactured and distributed over 15,000 grams of methamphetamine and is also responsible for assaulting other methamphetamine producers in an effort to get them to produce the drug for the Aryan Circle.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Odessa Police Department, along with the Ector County Sheriff's Office, Midland County Sheriff's Office, Midland Police Department, Texas Department of Public Safety, West Texas Narcotics Enforcement Task Force, Andrews Police Department, Andrews County Sheriff's Office, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission and Drug Enforcement Administration.

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